JBH:clm 03/09/06 7156-70278-01 497213 JCB/P109148US

PATENT

Attorney Ref. No. 7156-70278-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of: Filho and Albuquerque

Application No. 10/767,539

Filed: January 29, 2004 Confirmation No. 5352

For: ASSEMBLY AND METHOD FOR

STIFFENING A FLEXIBLE PIPE

Examiner: Patrick F. Brinson

Art Unit: 3754

Attorney Reference No. 7156-70278-01

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

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Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed

March 9, 200

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed is an Amendment for the above application. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
For	No. after amendment	No. paid for previously		Present Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	16	- 20*	=	0	\$50.00	\$ 0.00
Indep. Claims	4	- 6**	=	0	\$200.00	\$ 0.00
Mult. Dep. Claims Fee (if not previously paid)					\$360.00	\$0.00
One-month Extension of Time				\$120.00	\$0.00	
Two-month Extension of Time				\$450.00	\$0.00	
Three-month Extension of Time					\$1,020.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$0.00

^{*} greater of twenty or number for which fee has been paid.

No additional fee is required.

Please charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with filing this amendment and any extension of time, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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- If the Patent and Trademark Office determines that this amendment results in an additional application size fee for pages in excess of 100, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- Please return the enclosed postcard to confirm that the items listed above have been received.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

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Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)____

Date Mailed March 9, 2006

AMENDMENT AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY

This responds to the Office action dated December 21, 2005. The action sets a three-month period for responding, making a reply due March 21, 2006. Please amend the referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.